

COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED REJECTION OF *CURIMATA* WALBAUM, 1792. Z.N.(S.) 1590

(see volume 20, pages 390–394)

By William R. Taylor (*Division of Fishes, U.S. National Museum, Washington, D.C.*)

I wish to call to the attention of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature that there are additional data that should be considered in acting on the Case “*Curimata* Walbaum, 1792 (Pisces): Proposition à l’inscription de ce genre à l’index officiel des noms rejetés”. If the decision is made that *Curimata* Walbaum is a species name rather than a genus name and if *Curimatus* Oken is placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology, the name of another large group of fishes may be seriously jeopardized.

Pertinent uses of the names *Curimata* and *Curimatus*, that I have discovered, follow in apparent chronological sequence:

(1) *Curimata* Walbaum, 1792, as “*Salmo (Curimata) Marggravii*” (already discussed by Géry, *loc. cit.*).

(2) *Curimata* Bosc, 1817 (*Nouveau Dictionnaire D’Histoire Naturelle* nouv. ed., tom. 9, page 9). The date of publication of this volume was March 1817 according to Sherborn (*Index Animalium* ed. 2, pt. 1, page xlv, 1922). Bosc’s description follows:

“CURIMATE, *Curimata*. Sous-genre établi par Cuvier, parmi les Salmones, sous la considération du moindre nombre des rayons branchiaux. Il a pour type le Salmone sans Dents. (B).”

A nominal species is not listed; “le Salmone sans Dents” evidently refers to *Salmo edentulus* Bloch, plate 380 (see Cuvier, *Regne Animal* ed. 1, vol. 2, page 165, 1817). *Salmo edentulus* Bloch is also maintained by Géry (p. 390) to be the type species of *Curimatus* Oken.

(3) *Curimatus* Oken, 1817 (*Isis oder Encyclopädische Zeitung* vol. 1, [section] VIII, [no] 148). The pagination is irregular and not continuous in this portion of volume 1. The name appears in the lower part of the right hand column (Cuvier’s System) of the fifth (not numbered) page of number 148 which is the first page of the addition (zu 148). It is not listed in the column titled “Okens System.” The actual date of publication appears to have been subsequent to April or May 1817 (note signed articles in section VIII, number 136, page 1807, dated May 1817 and number 141, pages 1121–1122, dated 20 April 1817), and probably was in August or later since it is likely that VIII signified the section for the eighth month. The name *Curimatus* was not accompanied by description, reference to a nominal species, remarks, nor further bibliographic reference.

(4) *Curimata* Cloquet, 1818 (*Dictionnaire des Sciences Naturelles* tom. 12, page 240). This publication appeared in December 1818 according to M. Henri Cassini (*Opuscles Phytologiques* page 147, 1834). Descriptions and synonymies are given for the three included species: *Curimata edentulus*, *Curimata unimaculatus* (equals *Characinus curimata* Lacepède equals *Salmo unimaculatus* Bloch, plate 381, fig. 3), and “*Curimata Friderici*”.

Please note that the synonym *Characinus curimata* Lacepède (an absolute synonym of *Salmo unimaculatus* Bloch) is the type species of *Curimata* Cloquet, by absolute tautonymy, if *Curimata* Cloquet is a new name.

Curimata Bosc then may have as its type species *Salmo unimaculatus* Bloch since Bosc did not include nominal species in the subgenus.

Salmo unimaculatus is now usually placed in another large genus, *Hemiodus* Müller, 1842 (*Monatsb. Akad. Wiss. Berlin*, page 324) by most workers (see Fowler, *Arquivos de Zoologia* vol. 6, page 273, 1950, for synonymy). Thus *Curimata* Bosc, 1817, and *Hemiodus* Müller, 1842, may compete as the generic name for a large group of fishes and create further instability.



Taylor, William Randolph. 1964. "Comment on the proposed rejection of Curimata Walbaum, 1792." *The Bulletin of zoological nomenclature* 21, 260–260.
<https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.part.28502>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/44463>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/bhl.part.28502>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/28502>

Holding Institution

Natural History Museum Library, London

Sponsored by

Natural History Museum Library, London

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder.

Rights Holder: International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>

Rights: <https://biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.